



ASSISTANT
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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
WASHINGTON, DC 20226
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OPEN LETTER TO ALL FLORIDA FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES

FLORIDA CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMITS
ARE NO LONGER A VALID ALTERNATIVE TO NICS CHECKS

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of your responsibilities under the permanent provisions of the Brady Law, 18 U.S.C. § 922(t).

The permanent provisions of the Brady Law took effect on November 30, 1998. The Brady Law generally requires Federal firearms licensees (FFLs) to initiate a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) check before transferring a firearm to an unlicensed individual. However, the Brady Law contains a few exceptions to the NICS check requirement, including an exception for holders of certain State permits to possess, carry, or acquire firearms.

In a 1998 open letter, ATF advised you that concealed weapons permits issued in your State prior to November 30, 1998, would be "grandfathered" as Brady alternatives for the duration of the permit, not to exceed five years from the date of issuance. The letter also stated that permits issued on or after November 30, 1998, would **NOT** qualify as alternatives to the NICS check.

Florida State law provides that concealed weapons permits are valid for five years. Therefore, as of November 30, 2003, all of the "grandfathered" permits will have expired and Florida FFLs may no longer accept a Florida concealed weapons permit as an alternative to a NICS check. If you have any questions, please contact your local ATF office.

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